



WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

TO THE CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

TO THE PRESIDENT of the Woman's Auxiliary to the California Medical Association comes the pleasant privilege of visiting the component county auxiliaries during the year, of meeting with the Auxiliary members in their home communities and of hearing reports that are given by the committee chairmen on the specific projects they have undertaken in their counties.

In every instance they are working together to cultivate and promote good public relations. Thousands of hours are spent each year on community service. We have members serving on local school boards, in Parent-Teacher Associations, at the rehabilitation and health centers, to name but a few.

These are all volunteer workers, making a valuable contribution of service to the community and helping to develop good public relations for both the Auxiliary and the county medical society.

When I visited Santa Cruz County Auxiliary in April I learned about its active Health Careers program. There are three career clubs in the county high schools, with an auxiliary member in charge of program in each club. During the past year Mrs. James Spencer served as program chairman for the Future Nurses Club of Watsonville High School, Mrs. George McCormick for the Medical Arts Club of San Lorenzo Valley High School and Mrs. Robert Wiese for the Health Careers Club of Santa Cruz High School.

Some of the clubs meet weekly during the lunch hour and others bi-weekly or monthly. Speakers during the year have been specialists in their chosen paramedical field. Their subjects have included talks on occupational therapy, physical therapy, laboratory technology, pharmacy, psychology, psychiatric social work and medical secretarial work as well as nursing.

Each speaker explains to the students the type of work he does, the education and training required, the opportunities that are available in his field of work and the salaries that may be expected. The students are advised what courses are necessary in their

high school program to plan for a career. In addition to speakers, many educational films have been shown at the meetings. Field trips have been made to the x-ray and pathology laboratories in Santa Cruz and to the Children's Orthopedic School in Capitola.

During the Easter vacation, the Santa Cruz and San Lorenzo Valley high schools made an all-day tour to the University of California Medical School in San Francisco. The Watsonville group made a similar trip to the Santa Clara County Hospital.

The Santa Cruz High School club is the nucleus of the newly formed County Hospital Junior Auxiliary. Each girl spends two or three hours weekly in volunteer service at the hospital. They help to serve trays, feed patients and work in the laboratory and central-supply room. These girls are well received both by hospital personnel and by patients, who look forward to seeing their bright young faces.

The Auxiliary members in charge of these clubs have compiled sufficient material to enable them to offer a fairly complete counseling service for students seeking information concerning a particular paramedical career.

A new and very important project will be undertaken by the Woman's Auxiliary to the California Medical Association this year. At the recommendation of Dr. T. Eric Reynolds, president of the C.M.A. and chairman of the ad hoc committee on care of the aged, we will assist the California Medical Association in its senior citizens program. In order to establish an information center, to inform people about the available types of care now in existence for senior citizens, each county Auxiliary will be asked to cooperate in making a survey to determine just what is available in the way of day-hospitals, visiting nurses, nursing homes, occupation and hobby programs in its community.

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